

**Andrew Jackson to Edward Ward, October 26, 1816,  
from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by  
John Spencer Bassett.**

**TO COLONEL EDWARD WARD.**

Nashville October 26, 1816.

*Sir.* I did intend on yesterday to have addressed you on the following subject, but hearing you had company declined it, the object of this letter being to make enquiry of and concerning the death of Doctor Purnells horse—the causes of Suspicion of his being Poisoned, etc etc; I have therefore to request, that you will be good enough to state—at what time of the day the horse took Sick—whether before or after his mornings exercise—and whether before or after his mornings feed—had his stable a lock on how fastened, if any what apparenc[e] of any person having been in his stable—what were the differrent remedies applied—and which of them and how many by and with the directions of Doctor Purnell—at what time did the Doctor first state his opinion of his being Poisoned—whether before or after the horse was oppened—did the horse swell much, and if he did, how long after he was first taken before he did swell whether he appeared to be convulsed and at what time what was the appearance of his stomach when oppened—and the distance of time from the date of the horses being taken ill as nigh as can be recollected, untill the time he was disected—and how long after his death. I have had a statement from Mr William Sanders and Eli Hammonds, but these Gentlemen not being there when the horse was first taken or at his death I wish to have a full statement from you. If the horse was Poisoned, the villain that did it ought to and must be punished, if not that man who has been malignant anough to give rise to the idea of his being Poisoned, that Suspicion should light somewhere on innocence if that even on a slave—deserves punishment I was

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compelled to Bedford court, or I should have called on you for the before information. I hope you will have the goodness to furnish me with it today

I am Sir yr mo, ob, serv,